

Geoplatform.gov: An Evolving Tool

for Accessing, Sharing,
and Visualizing Geospatial Data



Transformation
through Partnerships

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Outline for Today's Presentation:

- **E-Government (E-Gov)**
- **How will Geoplatform.gov support decision making?**
- **What is geospatial data?**
- **How is Geoplatform.gov being developed?**
- **Functionality of Geoplatform.gov**
- **Questions**

What is E-Gov?

E-Government, or E-Gov, is the use of Internet-based technologies to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the Federal Government, save taxpayer dollars, and streamline citizen participation.

- **Some (earlier) efforts have focused on “consolidation” of similar functions from the separate agency websites into centralized, “one-stop shops” like USAJob.gov.**
- **Other efforts have focused on making the wealth of data the Federal Government produces more accessible to the public, business, other Federal Agencies, and other governmental units.**
- **Making data easier to locate and obtain increases the value and utility of that data by making it accessible and thus more likely to be put to use.**

Why is Visualizing Geospatial Data Important?

- Government, industry, and individual citizens increasingly rely on information linked to location for planning, investment, and management activities. The ability to display information through (interactive) maps helps to communicate complex ideas and spatial relationship more clearly and supports informed decision making.
- Put issues and events in context of location, the surrounding environment, and the people affected.
- Understand complex issues and integrate multiple data elements through one map or view.
- Recognize trends and relationships that might otherwise be missed.
- Integrate disparate types of data (spreadsheets, financial data, monitoring results, etc.) from multiple organizations into quickly and easily understood formats.

Why Do We Need Geoplatform.gov?

- Federal agencies and their partners collect and manage large amounts of geospatial data – but this data are often not easily found or accessible in useful forms.
- The Geospatial Platform is being built to provide the services and capabilities to solve these issues giving the public, businesses, and government agencies the ability to discover, integrate, visualize and map, and **collaborate** on (geospatial) data.
- Geoplatform.gov allows people to **visualize (geospatial) data without the need to purchase specialized geographic information systems software.** Users simply need to use a web browser to access the powerful tools under development within the Geoplatform.gov

What is Geospatial Data?

- Geospatial data refers to any feature, event, or activity which can be located, referenced, measured, and recorded in 2 or 3 dimensional space; and possibly time.

Absolute Position

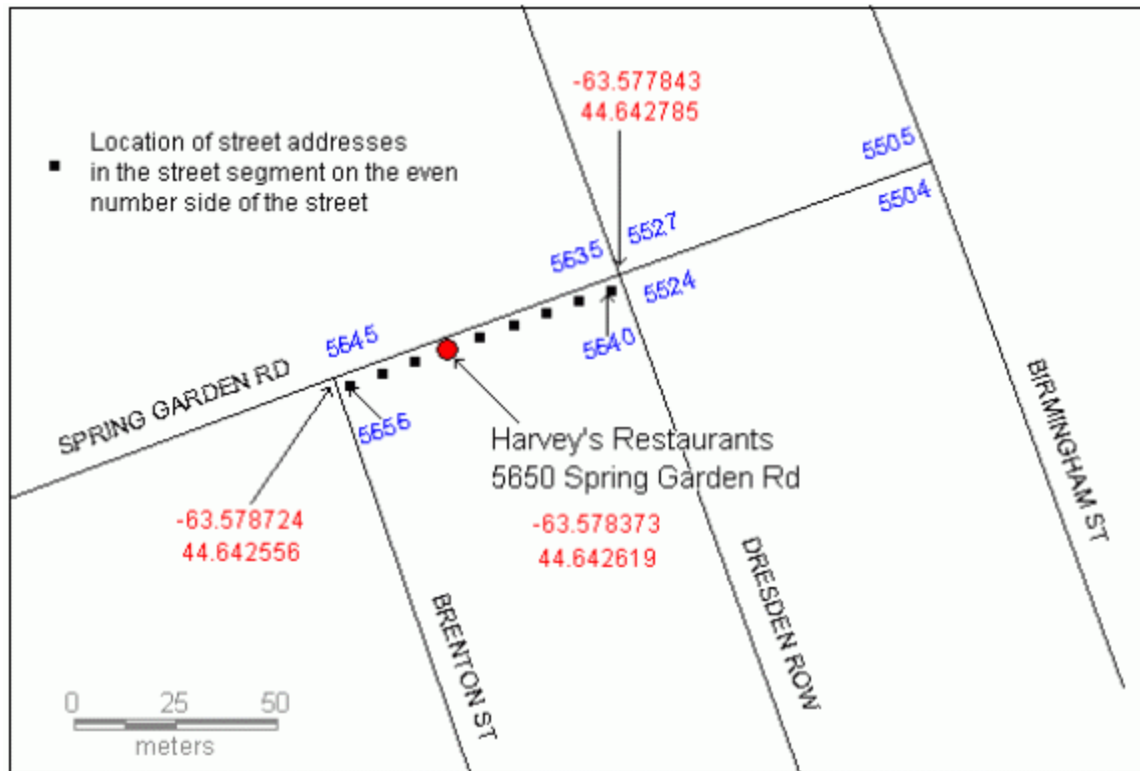
- X, Y, & Z coordinates
- Longitude, Latitude, Elevation or Depth
- Positions obtained through measurement: surveying, GPS, photogrammetry, etc.

Relative Position

- A feature is located relative to another feature or object.
- (Street) Addresses
- ZIPCodes
- Linear Reference Systems

What is Geospatial Data? (continued)

Absolute Position vs. Relative Position



How is Geoplatform.gov Being Developed?

- The partner agencies of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) are developing a geospatial platform to more effectively provide place-based products and services to the American public.
- The FGDC is establishing Standards for geospatial data and building the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)
- The Geospatial Platform will be a managed portfolio of common geospatial data, services, and applications contributed and administered by authoritative sources and hosted on a shared infrastructure, for use by government agencies and partners to meet their mission needs and the broader needs of the Nation.



What will the Geospatial Platform offer?

- The Geospatial Platform will offer access to trusted geospatial data, services, and applications maintained in the Federal Geospatial Portfolio to support government agencies in meeting their mission objectives, and provide efficiencies and cost savings through shared infrastructure and enterprise solutions. The Geospatial Platform will provide:
- A **“one-stop shop”** to deliver trusted, nationally consistent data and services.
- Tools for the centralized discovery, access, and use of data and services managed and maintained in multiple agencies, locations, and levels of government. Tools that enable data to be displayed in a visual context.
- Problem-solving applications that are built once and reused many times across multiple Federal agencies and other organizations.

What will the Geospatial Platform offer? (cont.)

- **Services based upon common, secure, and scalable open-standards, ensuring interoperability between components.**
- **A shared cloud computing infrastructure to cost-effectively host data and applications, and handle increased service demands quickly without additional hardware investments.**
- **Shared geospatial capabilities (hosting, services, analytical tools, etc.) for Federal agencies that do not have the financial or human resources to leverage geospatial tools to help them fulfill their mission requirements with little or no additional cost.**
- **The tools and infrastructure to enable decision makers to quickly and efficiently determine what geospatial data, services, and application assets can be brought to bear to address priorities, solve problems, and identify solutions.**

What will the Geospatial Platform offer? (cont.)

- The opportunity to leverage complementary efforts such as Data.gov and the Federal cloud computing initiative.
- The means to implement the Federal Geospatial Portfolio Management processes described in the November 2010 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-16 Supplemental Guidance*.
- A set of user-friendly tools to support key initiatives such as the Administration's Open Government Initiative and Place-Based Policies Initiative.

A Common Framework for Geospatial Platform

- **Common Data** - Core geospatial data will be a key building block of the platform. Data sets are selected because they meet inclusion criteria outlined in the *OMB A-16 Supplemental Guidance* and are used by two or more agencies/partners to meet their business needs.
- **Common Services** - Common geospatial services will provide users with consistent capabilities for performing necessary geospatial functions. Examples of common services include:
 - geocoding
 - basemap services
 - requirements development and tracking tools
 - system computing cycles and file transfer protocol (FTP) services
 - acquisition services
 - data production services
 - training

A Common Framework for Geospatial Platform

- **Common Applications** - Key tools or capabilities that enable users to perform geospatial visualization or analysis, including software, online applications and geo-processing required by two or more agencies/partners/customers. This category of applications includes a broad spectrum of analytical support generated to facilitate the government's delivery of services to citizens.



The screenshot shows the Geospatial Platform website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, GALLERY, MAP, GROUPS, and MY CONTENT. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large banner with the text "Welcome to the Geospatial Platform" and a description of the platform's purpose. To the right of the banner is a "Featured Map" section showing a map of the United States with the title "USGS Administrative Boundaries - ...". Below the banner are three columns of featured content: "Featured Maps" with a globe icon, "Collaborate in Groups" with a group of people icon, and "Build Your Own Map" with a map icon. At the bottom, there is an "About the Geospatial Platform" section with a detailed description of the platform's data sources and verification process. The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

GEOSPATIAL PLATFORM

Resource Center Show: Web Content Only▼ Help▼ Sign In

HOME GALLERY MAP GROUPS MY CONTENT Find maps, applications and more... Q

Welcome to the
Geospatial Platform

The Geospatial Platform provides shared and trusted geospatial data, services, and applications for use by government agencies, their partners and the public

Featured Map:



USGS Administrative Boundaries - ...

Featured Maps



Explore featured maps and apps from all levels of government.

Collaborate in Groups



Work in public and private groups with others who share your interests and ideas.

Build Your Own Map



Create a map you can view anywhere on any device and share with anyone.

About the Geospatial Platform

Federal agencies and their partners collect and manage large amounts of geospatial data - but these data are often not easily found when needed or accessible in useful forms. The Geospatial Platform provides ready access to federally maintained geospatial data, services and applications. The content of all datasets and services demarcated with the Data.gov globe icon have been verified by the Agency to be consistent with Federal privacy, national security, and information quality policies. As an additional service to our users, we also provide access to data from our partners across State, Tribal, Regional and local governments as well as non-governmental organizations.

fgdc
Federal Geographic Data Committee



Resource Center Show: Web Content Only▼ Help▼ Sign In

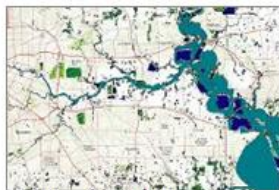


Geospatial Platform Featured Content

Maps Web Apps Mobile Apps



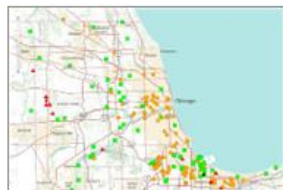
Atlantic Offshore Seabird Dataset Catalog



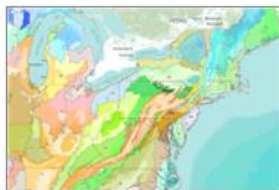
National Wetlands Inventory



NOAA Weather Radar and Weather Warnings



EPA Cleanup sites



United States Omernik Ecoregions



USGS - The National Map



USA Soil Survey



USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)

Search for more maps or click below to find the:

- Highest Rated
- Most Recent
- Most Viewed

What is a map?

Create your Web map and save it online.

What is a Web app?

Create your own app using the ArcGIS API for:

- JavaScript
- Flex
- Silverlight

What is a mobile app?

Create your own mobile app using the ArcGIS API for:

- iOS
- Mobile
- Windows Phone
- Android

HOME

My Map

[New Map](#)
[Geospatial Platform Home ▾](#)
[Help ▾](#)
[Sign In](#)

Details

Add ▾

Basemap

Save ▾

Share

Print


Find address or place

Make your own map

It's easy to make your own map. Just follow these steps:

- 1. Choose an area.**
 Pan and zoom the map to an area or search by its name or address.
- 2. Decide what to show.**
 Choose a Basemap then Add layers on top of it.
- 3. Add more to your map.**
 Create an editable layer to draw features on the map.

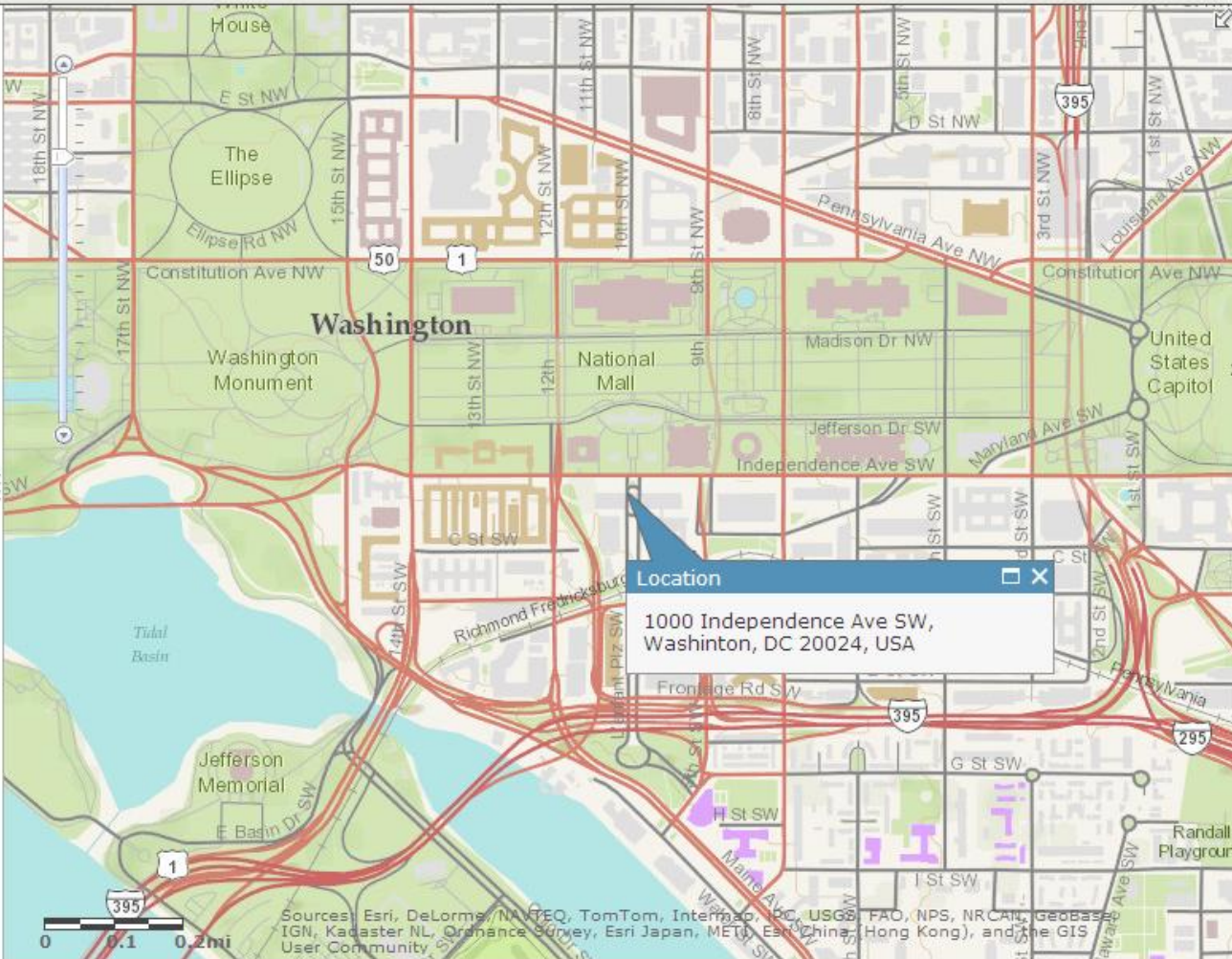
 Display descriptive text, images, and charts for map features in a pop-up.
- 4. Save and share your map.**
 Give your map a name and description then share it with other people.

 HOME

My Map

[New Map](#)
[Geospatial Platform Home](#)
[Help](#)
[Sign In](#)

[Details](#)
[Add](#)
[Basemap](#)
[Save](#)
[Share](#)
[Print](#)



The map shows a street grid in Washington, DC, with major landmarks like the National Mall, Jefferson Memorial, and the Tidal Basin. A location pop-up is visible at 1000 Independence Ave SW.

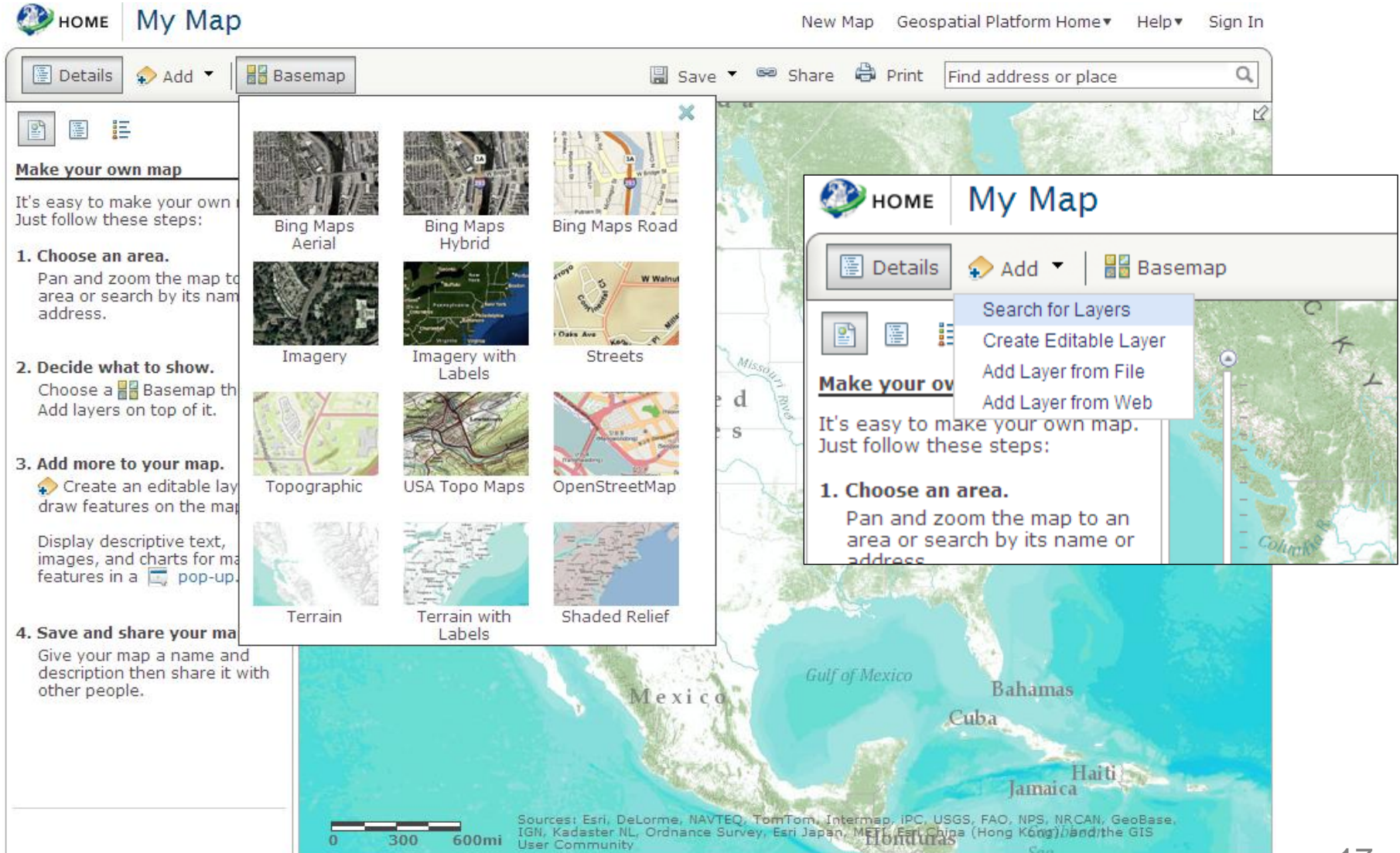
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Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, iPC, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Geobase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), and the GIS User Community



HOME My Map New Map Geospatial Platform Home Help Sign In

Details Add Basemap Save Share Print Find address or place

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Basemap Selection Menu:

- Bing Maps Aerial
- Bing Maps Hybrid
- Bing Maps Road
- Imagery
- Imagery with Labels
- Streets
- Topographic
- USA Topo Maps
- OpenStreetMap
- Terrain
- Terrain with Labels
- Shaded Relief

Search for Layers Menu:

- Search for Layers
- Create Editable Layer
- Add Layer from File
- Add Layer from Web

Map Content:

Map showing the Gulf of Mexico, Mexico, Bahamas, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, and Florida. Scale: 0 300 600mi.

Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, IPC, USGS, FAO, NPS, MRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

The screenshot displays the Geoplatform.gov web application. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, My Map, New Map, Geospatial Platform Home, Help, and Sign In. Below this is a toolbar with icons for Details, Add, Basemap, Save, Share, and Print, along with a search bar labeled "Find address or place".

On the left side, there is a sidebar titled "Search for layers to add". It contains a search input field with the placeholder text "(e.g., parcels, fire...)" and a "Go" button. Below the input field, there is a dropdown menu labeled "In:" with the selected option "Geospatial Platform". Underneath, there is a section labeled "What" with a list of options: "Geospatial Platform", "The Web", and "A GIS server". A message below the list says "Click Go to start a search."

At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a button labeled "Done Adding Layers".

The main area of the application shows a map of North America, specifically focusing on the United States and parts of Canada and Mexico. The map is labeled with "GREAT PLAINS", "United States", "Mexico", "Gulf of Mexico", "Bahamas", "Cuba", "Jamaica", "Haiti", and "Honduras". A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances of 0, 300, and 600 miles. At the bottom right, there is a list of data sources: "Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, IPC, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community".



Resource Center Show: Web Content Only▼ Help▼ Sign In



HOME

GALLERY

MAP

GROUPS

MY CONTENT

Search for groups...



Groups allow you to collaborate with other people.

Later this year, you will be able to create your own account on the Geospatial Platform, which will allow you to:

- Create and share maps
- Upload your content
- Join and create groups

In the meantime, you can [List all public groups](#) to explore what maps and information are currently available

Here are a few groups that you may find interesting.



[Details](#)

Climate & Weather

A-16 group for Climate & Weather
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011



[Details](#)

Governmental Units

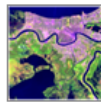
Boundaries and areas of United States governmental units
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011



[Details](#)

Imagery

Imagery from spaceborne and aerial platforms, digital orthophotography
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011



[Details](#)

Land Use - Land Cover

Land use and surface properties of the land and terrestrial cover
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011



[Details](#)

Transportation

Transportation information (transit, roads, aviation, ferries, trails)
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011

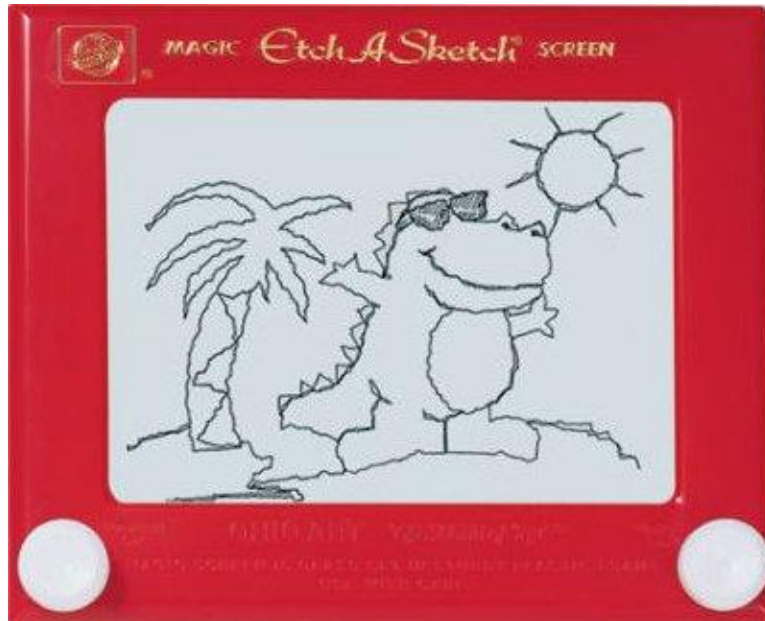


[Details](#)

Water - Oceans and Coasts

Ocean, marine, coastal, and estuarine information.
created by [ddnebert](#) on October 3, 2011

Questions?



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